

Trans-continental Lines.

The condition of the Texas-Pacific railroad bill is cheering to its friends, but its enemies still oppose it by stratagems that are almost too very much to the way of its progress. The bill recently introduced by Senator Johnson is of this order. The Senator is incapable of intending to deceive, and had a proper conception of the nature of the bill introduced by him he would hardly have touched it. We think he is a friend of the Texas-Pacific road and will vote for it. The bill has been introduced, we doubt not as an act of kindness to others, will not facilitate the establishment of a railway upon a southern line of latitude, but, on the contrary, it is seriously entertained by Congress, can only place such a road in jeopardy. To build such a road requires that there shall be a combination of favorable dispositions and reciprocal sentiment amongst the sections. When that time arrives, should the opportunity may come again. "We must take the current when it serves, or lose our ventures."

As we said formerly, in this new bill the Huntington monopoly would have the western terminus at San Francisco. He proposes now not to build a road from San Diego eastward, but to build a line from San Francisco to San Diego, and thus compel freight and travel to take its way via San Francisco or to go back on themselves and down the coast to hunt for a place of departure.

There is any point clear in Federal legislation with regard to trans-continental railways it is that those works shall be independent, and shall be made each for itself the agent of development and the artery of the commerce that naturally would find transportation by it the shortest and cheapest. Defeat this object of their construction, and of course immense injury must be done to commerce, development, and public convenience.

Five little corporations in a pie would be a good dish to set before Kiaz Huntington, and a proof of the folly of Congress and its faithlessness to the true interests of the nation as well as of the southern States. It would be a proof that miserable individual interests and the greed of corrupt corporations were made superior to the great interests of the nation.

Why should the monster of the Union-Central Pacific seek to gobble up the Texas-Pacific line rather than the Northern line, which has more land than the Texas-Pacific, and a liberal subsidy besides, which the Texas-Pacific has not? This is the rub. It is because the Northern line is the choicest and best of trans-continental routes. It has easy grades, low summits, perennial spring temperatures, no obstructive weather, and may be operated without intermission all the year round; while the Central-Union has sharp curves, heavy grades, summits in the clouds, obstructive weather, one hundred and fifty miles of snow-beds, and must be interrupted frequently, and must always encounter perils that are unknown to the Texas-Pacific line.

It is no wonder that a greedy, rapacious corporation like the Huntington company should fear the competition of such a line, and should seek by all imaginable contrivances to avoid it.

With the clear intention to make the trans-continental lines independent, with the knowledge that the public welfare more demands that the Texas-Pacific shall be independent, for many reasons, than any other highway across the continent, what effort is it in the monopoly company to present itself before Congress and demand that the Texas line shall be put in Mr. Huntington's care to dry-nurse. It is like putting the lamb under the motherly care of the she wolf. All independence, all vigor of the most important of all lines, would be at an end.

And how can Mr. Huntington, the representative of the most corrupt corporation that ever existed in this country, offer to take this great enterprise into his guardianship? Can there be any assurance that he will respect the public interests and be fair in his administration? Was he not the artificer of the Credit-Mobilier corruption? Was he not the villain who stood in the shade of poor old Mr. Ames and escaped public detection whilst a congressman, whose shoes he was not worthy to untie, was sent a scapegoat to the forest, and from thence to the grave? What have we seen the past winter but a conviction, in effect, of Mr. Huntington for practices hypocritical and censurable in endeavoring to deprive the Government of its rights? Senator Thurman's bill was the answer to that introduced on his behalf that was tantamount to a plea of "not guilty." But Senator Thurman's bill fixed the "guilt" upon him, and it was passed by the House with only two dissenting voices! Such a thing is without precedent, and presents a decision rare and damning.

Still the monopoly president travels the streets of Washington and persistently plots and schemes to defeat the greatest project for the promotion of the national welfare ever conceived. He dreads it, as do all his colleagues, and to defeat it he even plays the part of the MEMPHISIAN of the Federal capital.

We cannot see how it is possible that so important a scheme as that of the Texas-Pacific railway shall be handed over under such circumstances to such a man, and to a rapacious monopoly, which settles down upon the Pacific coast, and, like a family of starfish enveloping a bed of oysters, sucks up all life and leaves only empty shells after them. Every highway that pays toll—every ferry and steam line in California—is subordinated to this overbearing corporation—this incubus that must be unendurable and that in time must be overthrown.

But why submit the southern trans-continental line to the tender mercies of this rapacious and merciless corporation? It cannot be done by honest means. The sacrifice of the independence and unity of this grand enterprise would be a disaster. No man who loves his country and feels that he owes more to the nation than to corporations and individuals can help to perpetrate this great outrage.

We feel from what we hear and from the further and greater of this Texas time, that it will pass. If it is imperilled it will be by the blunders of those who have been its enemies.

regarded as its friends. If it falls, we repeat it will fall for a long time, if not forever. And this is exactly what the monopoly-olists want to see. They want to see more railroads.

The Norfolk Landmark desires to know the name of the author of the poem published in the Dispatch on the occasion of the death of Miss LUTY MARRIS.

Oh, no, Mr. Post. That error was not in the Dispatch.

Modern Duellings. In town and country adapted to American Wants and Climate, with a Treatise on Furniture and Decorations. By H. HENSON HOLLY. With one hundred original designs, comprising Cottages, Villas, and Mansions. New York: HARPER & BROTHERS.

A fine work, admirably illustrated. For sale by WEST, JOHNSON & CO.

Escher Penmanship. A Novel. By ALICE PERRY. New York: HARPER & BROTHERS.

Justine's Lovers. A Novel. New York: HARPER & BROTHERS.

The two books above-named, from the HARPERs, are very unique publications. They are the beginning of a "new series" of novels under the general title of "HARPERs' Library of American Fiction," devoted exclusively to works of American authors. They are bound in an original style, the cover bearing designs of American products.

They are for sale by WEST, JOHNSON & CO. and C. F. JOHNSON.

Reaping the Whirlwind. By MARY CECIL HAY. New York: HARPER BROTHERS.

Harpers' Half-Lion Series.

For sale by WEST, JOHNSON & CO. and ELLYSON & YANCEY.

Franklin-Square Library. HARPER & BROTHERS.

This is a new publication by the HARPERs, which is devoted to new works of fiction. This No. contains, "Is he Pop-ular?" By ANTHONY TROLLOPE.

For sale by C. F. JOHNSON and WEST, JOHNSON & CO.

FOUR LIGHTS THAT EQUALLED TWELVE CANDLES. The hundreds of passengers hurrying to and from trains at the Pennsylvania railroad depot last evening found the immense depot almost illuminated to a degree of light equal almost to that of day. This was the result of an exhibition of a powerful and original mechanical machine, which, in four minutes, placed at different points in the depot and cast a brilliant radiance over every object. The four lights equalled 1,200 candles. The upper carbon burns out at the rate of one inch per hour and costs two cents per inch. It is the sole cost of running the machine, except the expense of fuel for the engine.—Philadelphia North American, 18th.

[We intend to have one soon.]

LOCATED.—Young Jarvis enlisted in Portsmouth, where he was well known. He was at the time an apprentice to Mr. John O. Laidlaw, merchant tailor. His relatives reside somewhere in Matthews county.—Norfolk Virginian.

[This in reply to the Pennsylvania who inquired for the owner of a New Testament taken from the body of a Confederate soldier named Jarvis.]

THE WEATHER YESTERDAY.—A GOOD GUESS.—Here is what "Old Probs" predicted for yesterday:

"Pop," the Middle Atlantic States, generally lower pressure, increasing southerly to easterly winds, veering to southwest or westerly, and generally warmer, cloudy, and rainy weather, followed by clearing weather."

An engagement which will interest the readers of the Graphic in New York as well as here was announced this week. It is that of Miss Isabel Eugene Chevalle, niece of Mr. Frank Turner, for some years a resident of this city, but formerly a much-esteemed cavalier in New York's most fashionable society. Her paternal grandfather was Peter Chevalle, the head of one of Richmond's most influential families, and a connection of the family of the ex-Lieutenant General. Lieutenant Green, the fortunate young officer of the United States army who has secured the promise of the hand of one of the loveliest of our young girls in disposition, as well as one possessed of the most attractive and brilliant of the highest honors in his class at West Point. Senator Don Cameron secured for him an appointment to go with the military tactics and engineering during the Russo-Turkish war. He is an engineer, and has so distinguished himself as to be specially honored and decorated by the Grand Duke Constantine, with whom he has been closely associated while in the field.—Miss Grady's Washington letter in New York Graphic.

A GREENBACK CALF.—Washington, May 18.—Mr. Freeman, of Gasconade county, Mo., while planting corn, placed a basket containing 70 lb. of greenbacks by the side of the field. A calf swallowed the greenbacks. It was immediately butchered, and the fragments recovered from the stomach were today received at the Treasury. Being found all right, a check was returned for the full amount.

OFF FOR PITTSBURGH.—Philadelphia, May 18.—A number of prominent Democrats left this city to-night for Pittsburgh to take part in the State Convention, which opens in that city on Wednesday. Among those who left were Samuel J. Randall, General William McCandless, Secretary of Internal Affairs, and ex-Mayor Richard Vaux.

THE BLUE AND THE GRAY.—St. Louis, May 19.—Arrangements have been made to decorate Union and Confederate soldiers' graves at Jefferson Barracks, near this city. It has been decided to give the occasion a religious aspect, by selecting only clergymen to conduct the exercises.

FIRE AT ST. PAUL.—St. Paul, May 19.—The refrigerator warehouse of Dunn, Thompson & Co., and the Park-Place Hotel, a four-story structure, in St. Peter street, were burned after midnight. Total loss, \$30,000. Several firemen and others sustained injuries by falls and burns—none, John Briggs, being fatally burned.

A SOCIALISTIC SUNDAY PARADE.—St. Louis, May 19.—The Socialistic Labor party had a grand parade and picnic to-day. Every thing passed off in an orderly manner, and there were no evidences of armed organization, as was expected there would be.

Forty Persons Burned to Death.—London, May 20.—The Times's dispatch from Calcutta reports that during a performance in the theatre at Ahmednagar the building caught fire and forty persons were burned to death.

St. Louis was visited with a very heavy storm of wind and rain on Saturday. About one hundred buildings in the outskirts were damaged or otherwise damaged, and trees, fences, and small out-buildings scattered in every direction. In the centre of the city the wind was not so furious. No person killed. Some injured.

Martin Head, aged sixteen, while playing baseball yesterday near Providence, R. I., fell dead, while running to the home-base, having burst a blood-vessel in the effort.

The steamship Gaelic, which sailed from San Francisco on Saturday for Hong Kong and Yokohama, carried out \$2,081,401 in silver and \$4,475 in gold and dust.

At special elections, one Liberal and one Conservative, or Tory, have just been chosen to Parliament.

THE EPISCOPAL COUNCIL.

Last Day's Proceedings.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR THE ENSUING YEAR.—THE QUESTION OF CANONICAL DISTRICTS POSTPONED UNTIL THE NEXT COUNCIL.—FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR THE WEST VIRGINIA DIOCESE.—PAROCHIAL REPORTS.—DR. HANCKEL'S REPORT ON THE STATE OF THE CHURCH.—ROUND DANCING.—HOW THE SUBJECT WAS DEPOSED OF.—AN INTERESTING QUESTION.—THE CANON TO COME UP AGAIN AT THE COUNCIL WHICH MEETS IN FREDERICKSBURG—ADJOURNMENT.

(Reported for the Dispatch.)

LYNCHBURG, May 20, 1878.

The Council met Saturday at 9 o'clock. Prayer by Rev. J. N. Norwood.

Rev. Mr. Kinsolving, from the Committee on Historical Reports, reported, asking to be continued until the next session. Agreed to.

Rev. Dr. Pendleton presented resolutions of thanks to the citizens of Lynchburg, railroads, &c., and authorizing the printing of 1,500 copies of the Journal.

OFFICERS ELECTED.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Standing Committee: Rev. Joseph Packard, D. D., Rev. George H. Norton, D. D., Rev. D. F. Sprigg, D. D., Messrs. Cassius F. Lee, Charles S. Taylor, and Arthur Herbert.

Executive Committee: The Diocesan Missionary Society: Right Rev. F. M. Whittle, D. D., LL. D.; Rev. William Norwood, D. D.; Rev. Joshua Peterkin, D. D.; Rev. Charles Minnigerode, D. D.; Rev. E. M. Baker; Rev. C. J. Gibson, D. D.; Rev. C. D. Dashiell; Rev. W. Q. Hollister; Rev. W. P. G. Dashiell; Mr. David N. Walker, Mr. George B. Harrison, and Mr. J. L. Williams.

Standing Committee on Colored Congregations: Bishop Whittle, Rev. C. J. Gibson, T. G. Dashiell, P. H. Mayo, John Stewart, and John L. Bacon.

CANONICAL DISTRICTS.

Rev. Dr. Pendleton, from the committee having charge of the question of canonical districts, submitted a report declaring it inexpedient to establish such districts.

Rev. E. V. Jones submitted a minority report in favor of the proposed change.

The Bishop said that it was the opinion of Bishop Peterkin that our missionary system is far superior to the canonical system as in operation in Maryland.

Mr. Jones moved to increase the committee by the addition of members of the independent convocations, and to continue the committee until next year. Agreed to.

REPORTS AND RESOLUTIONS.

Rev. Mr. Withers, from the committee appointed to report on the resolutions of the Virginia Synod, submitted an appropriate response, which was directed to be forwarded to the Council of West Virginia.

Rev. Mr. Jones, from the committee appointed to consider an amendment to the Constitution that five members shall constitute a quorum in vestries, &c., reported said amendment was inexpedient. Agreed to.

Rev. Dr. Sprigg presented a resolution for collections in June in the several churches in the diocese for the Educational Society. Withdrew.

Mr. Dashiell submitted a resolution for collections during the year, as follows: Diocesan Missionary Society, in Advent; foreign missions, Epiphany; disabled clergy, Christmas; Educational Society, in June; widows and orphans, some Sunday in Lent.

THE WEST VIRGINIA MATTER SETTLED.

Colonel J. M. Patton, from the Special Committee appointed to consider the West Virginia matter, presented the following resolution, which was agreed to:

Resolved, That the Diocese of Virginia pay to the Diocese of West Virginia the sum of \$5,000—\$3,000 to be paid as soon as the Council of West Virginia shall appoint a committee to receive the same, and the balance to be paid in annual instalments of \$1,000 each thereafter: Provided, That the payment of said sums of money by the Diocese of Virginia and the acceptance thereof by the Diocese of West Virginia shall operate over and over again as a release of all property claims by the Diocese of West Virginia, and that the resolution be certified by the secretary to the Council of West Virginia.

GEORGE W. DAME, J. M. PATTON, J. R. JONES, TAYLOR BERRY, Committee.

REPORT FROM COMMITTEE ON PAROCHIAL REPORTS.

Rev. Mr. Lindsay, from the Committee on Parochial Reports, submitted the following report:

No. of reports received.....	1877.	1878.
.....	150	148
No. of baptisms—Adults.....	322	449
Infants.....	1,126	1,333
.....	1,448	1,775
Number of confirmations.....	758	1,221
Number of communicants.....	12,099	10,910
.....	1,277	1,435
Removed.....	722	687
.....	98	122
Suspended.....	35	38
Dropped.....	205	195
.....	1,070	1,065
Net gain.....	207	386
Present number.....	12,306	11,500
Number of marriages.....	446	380
Number of funerals.....	804	681
Sunday schools—Teachers.....	1,494	1,449
Scholars.....	10,070	9,239
Parish schools—Teachers.....	39	19
Scholars.....	676	363
Contributions—Sunday School.....	\$2,058 66	\$4,176 53
General.....	\$93,056 62	\$82,000 82
Adopted.....		\$90,267 35

STATE OF THE CHURCH.

Rev. Dr. Hanckel, from the Committee on the State of the Church, submitted the following report, with a resolution to vote upon it without debate; which was read and accepted:

The conical year just closed has been an eventful one in the history of Virginia. In her ecclesiastical status she is no longer a West Virginia as an independent diocese. The organization of the Diocese of West Virginia as an independent diocese involved the severance of ties which have endured her entire history as a diocese, and that of her still-remaining members. The "mother of States," in her civil or ecclesiastical sphere, has been and must henceforth be the glory and the joy of a mother of dioceses. No word of ours, we feel persuaded, needful to elicit from the mother or to assure the daughter of a continuance of fostering care, since such care will be the spontaneous outflow of maternal love and interest.

Yet other sad associations tinge the year just passed. Changeless as is this world of change, we miss more than the faces of those who have passed from the scene of our life, the reaper Death taken from our ranks a larger number; never been more impartial in taking alike "the bearded grain and the flowers that grow between." Four of our clerical brethren have gone to their rest—two of the very oldest having fallen at their posts, and one of the youngest at the altar. Two more, while yet in the vigor of their armor down. Loved friends and faces of our brethren are also missing, and

the places which once knew them shall know them no more. These changes we can only say, "Even so, Father."

But other, and in one aspect sadder, removals have occurred, and that in unprecedented number—removals which not only appeal to our feelings, but to our sense of duty.

The Bishop reports a very large number of clerical dismissals from our diocese for lack of adequate support. We know that some did not leave us willingly, but with the heart of exiles. Shall the reproach of falling to make provision for our own rest upon Virginia when every one who has come to us has been needed to fill wastepieces at home? In the reports made and tabulated by the appropriate Committee on Clerical Support we grieve to note no indication of abatement of the cause of this depopulation of our ranks.

On the depletion of our ranks would appear to be on the contrary. Shall it culminate in a famine of bread, but for lack of bread of hearing the word of the Lord? One agency adopted to avert this (our Diocesan Missionary Board) should be enabled to stand in the gap and effectively redress the wrong so portentous of disaster to the cause of Christ and this Church in Virginia.

A small increase in the amount at the disposal of this Board is indeed reported, but with no miracle-working Lord to interpose, we are constrained to ask, "What avail among so many?" In their own right, twenty-four hundred and thirty-five dollars, the whole amount received affords an average stipend of only \$250 per annum to each. Instead of considerably less than \$6,000 contributed, the Diocesan Board should have twice that amount placed at their disposal. The importance of this cause is rendered more urgent by the relinquishment on our part of any further aid from the Central Board, and as new fields are developed and brought into notice in sections of the State the number of our evangelists, and the number of our Church is unknown, and our vast field—the colored population of the State (as field as yet very partially occupied)—claims our attention and culture. Furnishing, as this class does, the labor best adapted to our peculiar wants, and at the same time least turbulent, most orderly, and on every account most desirable work, capital anywhere controls, it is little to expect, and to say the very least impolitic and unchristian to withhold, provision for their spiritual as well as temporal necessities. Our clerical brethren (Rev. C. B. Wood, T. G. Dashiell, E. M. Baker, Messrs. D. N. Walker, John Stewart, and John O.

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was referred the canon in reference to round dancing, reported unanimously recommending its adoption.

The Chair ruled that the rule heretofore adopted declaring that the vote should be taken without debate fell with the canon of 14th canon.

Dr. Hanckel said it had been suggested to modify the canon so as to except father and daughter, and brother and sister. It had also been suggested to discuss the canon in strictly secret session. Personally, he did not object to free discussion; but at the close of the session it might be inexpedient.

He then renewed the motion to vote on the canon without debate.